



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 12, 2019

DEP identifies PFAS source in Bucks County as part of Ridge Run Investigation

Norristown, PA – The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection announced today that it has identified a source of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination at the Ridge Run PFAS HSCA Site as part of its investigation in East and West Rockhill townships, Bucks County.

DEP began its initial investigation in 2016 after being notified that one public supply well was found to contain combined concentrations of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) that exceeded the Health Advisory Level (HAL) established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of 70 parts per trillion (ppt). The supply well, which previously serviced several dozen homes, was taken offline and those previously served by it were connected to a nearby water supply. Between September 2016 and 2018, DEP focused its investigation on private drinking water wells, sampling over 150 homes in the area. DEP initiated an interim response action in 2018 to address the 14 homes that were found to be impacted above the HAL.

Throughout 2019, DEP's contractor installed monitoring wells in the area and performed soil, sediment, surface water and ground water sampling at 1419 Bethlehem Pike in West Rockhill Township. The investigation confirmed the presence of PFOS and PFOA contamination at this address, which historical records indicate was the location of a tire fire in 1986 that was extinguished with firefighting foam. DEP has since identified this location as a source of PFAS and its property owner and/or operator, Bergey's Realty Co. and/or Bergey's Retread Technologies, as a potentially responsible person under the Pennsylvania Hazardous Sites Cleanup Act of 1988.

"We understand these investigations can take longer than expected and that the process can be frustrating to those living with impacts," said Southeast Regional Director Pat Patterson. "We appreciate the community's assistance in this investigation and their ongoing patience and coordination. While this is an important step, we still have much work to do."

DEP will work with its contractor and attempt to engage with the newly identified potentially responsible person to determine what additional sampling may be needed to further understand the extent of contamination and options for remediation. DEP continues to work with those homeowners with private drinking water wells above the HAL on the installation of in-home treatment systems to remove PFAS from their water.

Find more [information about DEP's Ridge Run investigation](#).

MEDIA CONTACT: Virginia Cain, 484-250-5808

###



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

November 12, 2019

USPS Tracking:

USPS TRACKING # **9114 9023 0722 4167 9945 58**
& CUSTOMER
RECEIPT For Tracking or inquiries go to USPS.com
or call 1-800-222-1811.

Mr. David W. Budnick, CFO
Bergey's Realty Co.
462 Harleysville Pike
Souderton, PA 18964

Re: Bergey's Retread Technologies
1419 Bethlehem Pike
Sellersville, PA 18960

Ridge Run PFAS HSCA Site
East and West Rockhill Townships, Bucks County

Dear Mr. Budnick:

This letter serves as notification that the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has investigated the Ridge Run PFAS HSCA Site (Site) and has determined that further response action is appropriate. Pursuant to Section 501(a) of the Pennsylvania Hazardous Sites Cleanup Act (HSCA), Act of October 18, 1988 (P.L. 756, No. 108), 35 P.S. Section 6020.501(a), the DEP is required to notify the owner, operator or other known responsible persons when the DEP determines that further response is appropriate pursuant to HSCA.

The Site is located along portions of Old Bethlehem Pike, Bethlehem Pike, Tabor Road, Hill Road and North Rockhill Road in East and West Rockhill Townships, Bucks County. DEP's investigation revealed that Perflourooctane sulfonate (PFOS) and Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) contamination has been detected in residential privately-owned potable wells above the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) published lifetime Health Advisory Limit (HAL). The compounds identified above are considered "contaminants" as that term is defined by Section 103 of HSCA, 35 P.S. § 6021.103, and Section 9601 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), 42 U.S. Code § 9601.

In April and August 2019, DEP's contractor EnviroTrac performed soil sampling and surface water sampling at 1419 Bethlehem Pike in West Rockhill Township. The investigation confirms the presence of PFOS and PFOA contamination. Our information indicates that Bergey's Realty Co. and/or Bergey's Retread Technologies is/are the owner and/or operator of 1419 Bethlehem Pike. If so, Bergey's Realty Co. and/or Bergey's Retread Technologies could be responsible for any environmental investigations or cleanup actions necessary at this site.

Mr. David W. Budnick, CFO

- 2 -

November 12, 2019

This letter is not a final action by the DEP, nor is any action being required of you by this letter. If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact Colin Wade at 484.250.5722 or, if you are represented by counsel in connection with this matter, please ask your attorney to contact Brian Glass Esq. at 484.250.5870.

Sincerely,



Bonnie McClennen
Environmental Group Manager
Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields

cc: Mr. Wade
Mr. Cherry
Mr. Glass
East Rockhill Township
West Rockhill Township
Bucks County Health Department
Mr. Joel Bolstein, Esq. via email
File

Hello,

You are receiving this email from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) because you have previously expressed interest in the Ridge Run PFAS HSCA Site located in East and West Rockhill Townships, Bucks County.

This resource account, RA-EP-SEROecb@pa.gov, was recently created as a tool to better keep the community and other stakeholders informed of the Ridge Run investigation and other updates pertaining to the site. We will also be archiving each Community Update on our newly updated Ridge Run web page, found [here](#).

UPDATES:

- **DEP announced today that it has identified a source of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination at the Ridge Run PFAS HSCA Site as part of its investigation in East and West Rockhill townships, Bucks County. A copy of the press release and letter to Bergey's Realty Co. and/or Bergey's Retread Technologies is available on the project website.**
- **Residents within the Site can expect to see DEP's contractor surveying the monitoring wells on November 14th.**
- **The monitoring wells will be sampled in the coming weeks.**
- DEP is also continuing to work with those homeowners with wells testing above 70 ppt to install the in-house treatment systems. We are installing them on a rolling basis and hope to have all of them completed by the end of the year.

Thank you for your continued interest in DEP's work at the Ridge Run PFAS HSCA Site.

If you receive this message from a friend and would like to be added to the list, please contact RA-EP-SEROECB@pa.gov to be added with the heading "Ridge Run Updates" in the subject of your e-mail.

Sincerely,

Colin R. Wade | Environmental Protection Specialist
Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields
Department of Environmental Protection